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TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING LEAD SHEET: 7

DATE:

November 12, 2004

INITLALS: tas

RE:

US Patent Application 10/070,712

STEP FOR ÉSCALATOR (Tsukahara et al.)

Our File: OT-4607

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 GROUP 3651 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

I hereby certify that the following document (attached) is being facsimile ransmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306 on November 12, 2004, for filing in the above referenced application:

• Response After Pihal Rejection (4 pages)

• Request for One Month Extension of Time

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Tricia Smith

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RESPONS LUNDER 37 CFR 1.116 GROUP 3651

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMAR & OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No.: 1)T-4607

Y. Tsukahara et al.

Date: November 12, 2004

Appln. No.: 10/070,712

Group Art Unit: 3651

Filing Date: March 5, 2002

Examiner: Gene O. Crawford

Title: STEP FOR ESCALATOR

8606765010

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

In response to the final Office Action dated July 12, 2004, the period for response having been extended by one-month by the accompanying petition for extension of tin e, Applicants request reconsideration of the above-referenced application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 2 are independer t.

Initially, Applicants again gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indicat on that claim 1 is allowed, and that claims 5 and 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Regarding claims 5 and 6, since Applicants continue to believe that independent claim 2 is allowable, for the reasons discussed below, claims 5 and 6 have not been so rewritten at this time.